

Church News.

THE ENON CAMPAIGN.

Began protracted efforts at Enon, Sept. 20, and continued for three weeks. Tho in the midst of this fierce political campaign, God blessed our simple message, the crowds increased, interest awakened and we were enabled to gather up some of the precious gleanings of a well harvested field. This is the community where Bashor, in those days which consecrated effort made beautiful,—those days before the division,—preached so powerfully and where he received some one hundred and fifty into the Dunkard church—"a new thing under the sun" in the eyes of all Dunkards and well nigh a marvel to the scoffer. This is the place where at present there is within a mile of each other the G. B. church with a membership of nearly three hundred and the Enon Brethren church with about one hundred and seventy-five members. Here, last fall, I. D. Bowman gathered in thirty-five from a field which was pronounced barren, and last spring fifteen more came from the same "well-raked" field, and now after three weeks of weak effort, seven more came to God. It is nothing less than the hand of God. We relied on nothing less than the Holy Ghost and God convinced of sin and Jesus plead for salvation. There are more near the line. Brethren, depend on the power of the Holy Ghost. We can't make men feel that they are sinners, but that is his special business. See John 16: 7-11. May God make us faithful witnesses for him and his saving power. Pray for Enon. J. L. GILLIN.

MONTEVALLO, MO.

The Walnut Grove congregation of the Brethren Church at Montevallo, Mo., is still doing what it can to promote the good of the Master's cause. Our accessions for the third quarter have been two by baptism, two by letter, total 4. Our pastor, S. B. Leedy fills his three regular appointments each month besides several extra ones, very promptly, very seldom missing an appointment. Our weekly cottage prayer meeting has long proved an inspiration to our congregation. We have found the prayer meeting to be a great factor for good in church work—more divinely speaking, in the Master's work. The prayer meeting is a place where we can meet as brethren and unite our efforts in the worship of God. A meeting where concentrated action is as one, thereby lending inspiration to each other. As the gentle flame gains strength from igniting from straw to straw, so do Christians lend aid to each other by

a commingling of a divine nature. I often assert that the prayer meeting is to the church what prayer is to the Christian, and I don't believe I am far wrong. Do not understand me to say that this is the only important part of church work. We can not do all we should do by prayer in a direct sense, but in order that we may be fully equipped for the work before us, we should keep ourselves in sensitive touch with the Master by continually praying to Him for aid. In like manner should the church ever keep itself in line with the Master's wish by maintaining a weekly prayer meeting. Perhaps some have wondered what we have done about building our church house. In explanation permit me to say that we have deferred building until such a time that we will be better able. The cause for this action can be briefly stated as these: poor crops and the financial depression has rendered it impossible for us to procure the necessary funds. All money received will be held in reserve, and should we fail to build in the future, money will be refunded. From our chain letters we received about \$2. To those that have sent me, or any of the congregation, money for the above purpose, I will now say many thanks. We appreciate your kindness. I fear I have taken up too much space, but, dear Editor, forgive me.

Yours in the cause,
W. S. KOKENDOFFER, Cor. Sec.

THE HOLSINGER HISTORICAL THEOLOGY.

Notice appeared in a late number of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST, of a resolution passed by the Pennsylvania State Conference instituting a fund to aid in the prosecution of a work on the History and Theology of the Brethren Church, already begun by our dear brother, Elder H. R. Holsinger. A word may be necessary, by way of explanation, with reference to the inception and prospects of this work.

It should be understood at once that the scheme was in no way either suggested or pressed by Brother Holsinger. The force which led to it came from his personal friends, and the friends of the church, who foresaw the need of such literature to our brotherhood, and felt unanimously, that Elder H. R. Holsinger was the only brother who, with data and literary and theological ability, could successfully prepare and publish it. Dr. U. M. Beachly, of Meyersdale, Pa., at first proposed it to the writer, who was then in personal correspondence with Brother Holsinger. The idea met my approval, and it came to me like an inspiration, that not many years should elapse until we might have a creditable denominational

ecclesiastical history, and a thorough outline, at least, of our Theology. After much persuasion we induced Brother Holsinger to embark in the enterprise; and without promise, or even hope of financial aid from the church, the work was commenced. Brother Holsinger gave up his residence in California and returned to Pennsylvania to be better able to follow his new labors, which had been forced upon him, but which he finally, with willingness and intelligence, accepted.

Previously the California State Conference had passed a resolution, endorsing the proposed work. But the resolution, to my mind, was but complimentary, and calculated to reach, of itself, no practical end. The General Conference of 1896, also noticed our Brother Holsinger in connection with the work. But this, too, was necessarily limited in practical force. It remained for the Pennsylvania State Conference to take such steps as might insure the completion of the work. Accordingly, at our late meeting, held in Salisbury, Pa., a resolution prevailed, with intense earnestness, establishing the "H. R. Holsinger Historical Theology Fund," for the prosecution of the work. One hundred and twenty-five dollars were subscribed, with the hope that other District Conferences would contribute similar amounts. We ought to raise at least \$1000 during the current ecclesiastical year (from Aug. 31, present year, until the meeting of the General Conference, in Johnstown, Pa., in 1897.)

We sincerely trust that the brotherhood may appreciate the necessity of liberality along the line of this most laudable and useful effort, and contribute generously to its support.

The proposed work is expected to furnish an auto-biography of H. R. Holsinger, standard articles from the best writers in the brotherhood, cuts of persons and places whose memories are really parts of the most sacred parts of the most sacred history of our church, with a statement and exposition of the doctrinal theology of the Brethren, and a review of our distinctive position in General Church History. Brother Holsinger will, from time to time, inform the brotherhood as to the progress of the work. Meanwhile all funds collected for the effort should be forwarded to the writer.

Meyersdale, Pa.

ROARING SPRINGS, PA.

Our semi-communion at McKee was held on the evening of Oct. 18, representation good, and the services highly enjoyable, house over crowded, and order excellent. We had as our Barnabas, Eld. Knepper, of Berlin, of whom you know